

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 stand in this application. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 10, 13, 14, 16, 19, 22, 23, and 25 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the standing claims are respectfully requested

Claims 7, 16, and 25 have been indicated as being allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Claims 8-9, 17-18, and 24-27 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Claims 4, 5, 13, 14, 22, and 23 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

At pages 2-4, paragraph 4 of the Office Action claims 4, 5, 7, 13, 14, 16, 22, 23, and 25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for not particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection based on the above amendments. These claims have been amended in accordance with the Office Action, and removal of this rejection is respectfully requested. Applicant further submits that the above amendments are made to overcome a § 112 rejection and are not made to overcome the cited reference[s]. Accordingly, these amendments should not be construed in a limiting manner.

Claims 1, 10, and 19 have been amended for clarification purposes under § 112 and are not made to overcome the cited reference[s]. Accordingly, these amendments also should not be construed in a limiting manner.

At pages 4-5, paragraph 6 of the Office Action claims 1-3, 6, 10-12, 15, 19-21, and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent Number 5,175,829 to Stumpf et al. (Stumpf). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection, and requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the anticipation rejection.

Applicant respectfully submits that to anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), the cited reference must teach every element of the claim. *See* MPEP § 2131, for example. Applicant submits that the Stumpf reference fails to teach each and every element recited in claims 1, 10, and 19 and thus they define over the Stumpf reference.

With respect to claim 1, the Stumpf reference fails to teach, among other things, the following language:

generating simulation signals from a design simulation... .

According the Office Action, this language is disclosed by the Stumpf reference at column 2, lines 10-35. Applicant respectfully disagrees. The Stumpf reference at the given cite, or throughout the entire reference, fails to disclose “simulation signals” or “a design simulation” in any context. Consequently, the Stumpf reference fails to disclose all the elements or features of the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests removal of the anticipation rejection with respect to claim 1. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the anticipation rejection with

respect to claims 2, 3, and 6, which depend from claim 1 and, therefore, contain additional features that further distinguish these claims from the Stumpf reference.

With respect to claim 10, the Stumpf reference fails to teach, among other things, the following language:

generate simulation signals from a design simulation... .

According the Office Action, this language also is disclosed by the Stumpf reference at column 2, lines 10-35. Applicant respectfully disagrees. As stated above, the Stumpf reference at the given cite, or throughout the entire reference, fails to disclose “simulation signals” or “a design simulation” in any context. Consequently, the Stumpf reference fails to disclose all the elements or features of the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests removal of the anticipation rejection with respect to claim 10. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the anticipation rejection with respect to claims 11, 12, and 15, which depend from claim 10 and, therefore, contain additional features that further distinguish these claims from the Stumpf reference.

With respect to claim 19, the Stumpf reference fails to teach, among other things, the following language:

a computerized simulator for generating simulation signals
from a design simulation... .

According the Office Action, this language also is disclosed by the Stumpf reference at column 2, lines 10-35. Applicant respectfully disagrees. As stated above,

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the Stumpf reference at the given cite, or throughout the entire reference, fails to disclose “a computerized simulator,” “simulation signals” or “a design simulation” in any context. Consequently, the Stumpf reference fails to disclose all the elements or features of the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests removal of the anticipation rejection with respect to claim 19. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the anticipation rejection with respect to claims 20, 21, and 24, which depend from claim 10 and, therefore, contain additional features that further distinguish these claims from the Stumpf reference.

For at least the above reasons, Applicant submits that claims 1-3, 6, 10-12, 15, 19-21, and 24 recite novel features not shown by the Stumpf reference. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the claims are not anticipated in view of the Stumpf reference.

We would like to thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 7, 16, and 25; claims 8-9, 17-18, and 24-27; and claims 4, 5, 13, 14, 22, and 23 if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. These claims, however, depend either directly or indirectly from independent claims 1, 10, and 19, which, for at least the reasons discussed above, Applicant submits represent patentable subject matter in their current form. Therefore, at this time Applicant believes that it is not necessary to rewrite claims 7, 16, and 25; claims 8-9, 17-18, and 24-27; and claims 4, 5, 13, 14, 22, and 23 in independent form.

Applicant does not otherwise concede, however, the correctness of the Office Action’s rejection with respect to any of the dependent claims discussed above. Accordingly, Applicant hereby reserves the right to make additional arguments as may be

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necessary to further distinguish the dependent claims from the cited references, taken alone or in combination, based on additional features contained in the dependent claims that were not discussed above. A detailed discussion of these differences is believed to be unnecessary at this time in view of the basic differences in the independent claims pointed out above.

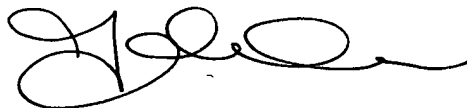
It is believed that claims 1-27 are in allowable form. Accordingly, a timely Notice of Allowance to this effect is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 724-933-3387 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

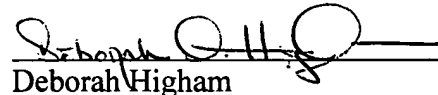
Respectfully submitted,

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Under 37 CFR 1.34(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on: December 29, 2004.



Deborah Higham

12-29-04
Date

Dated: December 29, 2004
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